



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **KANSAS MAN INDICTED FOR POSSESSION OF HAND GRENADE, PIPE BOMB**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas man, formerly of Lee's Summit, was indicted by a federal grand jury today for possession of a hand grenade and a pipe bomb.

**Joseph H. Johnston**, 38, of Roeland Park, Kansas, was charged in a two-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury meeting in Kansas City.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that, on July 28, 2002, **Johnston** was in possession of a fully assembled improvised explosive grenade consisting of a quantity of explosives confined within a modified military MK II type hand grenade hull with the emission hole plugged and an improvised military-type grenade fuse inserted into the grenade and into the confined explosives. Count One also alleges that **Johnston** was in possession of a fully assembled explosive bomb consisting of a quantity of explosive confined within a modified compressed gas cylinder and a length of green pyrotechnic fuse inserted into the confined explosives. According to the indictment, these destructive devices were not registered to **Johnston** in the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record.

Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that on the same date, **Johnston** was in possession of component parts of a hand grenade and a pipe bomb. The indictment alleges that **Johnston** was in possession of an unassembled improvised explosive grenade (consisting of a quantity of explosive powder, a length of green pyrotechnic fuse, a modified military MK II type grenade hull, and a spent military-type hand grenade fuse) and two unassembled explosive bombs (which consisted of a quantity of explosive powders, a length of green pyrotechnic fuse and two modified compressed gas cylinders). According to the indictment, these component parts were not registered to **Johnston** in the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rudolph R. Rhodes IV. The case was investigated by the Lee's Summit, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at  
[www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)